

Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: [Mechanical Engineers \(17-2141\)](#)
Associated Occupation: [Electrical Engineers \(17-2071\)](#)

[Compare Knowledge](#)
[Compare Skills](#)
[Compare Abilities](#)
[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)
[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 94

Focus Occupation: Mechanical Engineers (17-2141)
Associated Occupation: Electrical Engineers (17-2071)

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Engineering and Technology	5.7	22.4	21.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Design	5.2	21.5	21.0	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Mathematics	9.2	18.1	18.1	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Computers and Electronics	8.4	17.7	13.4	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Physics	4.3	15.3	15.3	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Mechanical	6.8	12.9	18.1	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Telecommunications	3.9	7.2	4.2	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 78

Focus Occupation: Mechanical Engineers (17-2141)
Associated Occupation: Electrical Engineers (17-2071)

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Writing	9.2	13.0	11.7	<	A higher skill level may be required
Complex Problem Solving	9.1	12.5	14.8	>	Skill level is likely sufficient
Mathematics	6.2	10.4	15.3	>>	Skill level is likely more than sufficient
Operations Analysis	5.0	9.8	13.0	>>	Skill level is likely more than sufficient
Systems Evaluation	6.4	9.8	12.0	>	Skill level is likely sufficient
Science	4.5	9.4	13.6	>>	Skill level is likely more than sufficient
Troubleshooting	4.5	8.8	9.5	0	Current skill level may be sufficient

Technology Design	2.6	5.1	11.0	>>	Skill level is likely more than sufficient
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The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 93			
Focus Occupation: Mechanical Engineers (17-2141) Associated Occupation: Electrical Engineers (17-2071)					
Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Written Comprehension	11.0	14.8	15.8	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	14.0	13.6	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Deductive Reasoning	10.6	13.9	15.8	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Written Expression	9.8	13.8	11.3	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Inductive Reasoning	10.2	13.5	12.8	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Information Ordering	9.9	12.3	15.4	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Category Flexibility	9.0	11.4	12.7	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Mathematical Reasoning	6.3	10.4	15.7	>>	Current ability level is likely more than sufficient
Number Facility	6.3	10.1	13.0	>>	Current ability level is likely more than sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 96
Focus Occupation: Mechanical Engineers (17-2141) Associated Occupation: Electrical Engineers (17-2071)		
Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity	
Advise clients or customers	19	
Advise clients regarding engineering problems	67	
Analyze engineering design problems	69	
Analyze engineering test data	71	
Analyze project proposal to determine feasibility, cost, or time	69	
Analyze scientific research data or investigative findings	27	
Analyze technical data, designs, or preliminary specifications	47	
Analyze test data	64	
Calculate engineering specifications	64	
Collect scientific or technical data	30	
Communicate technical information	4	
Compile numerical or statistical data	38	
Compute production, construction, or installation specifications	58	

Conduct performance testing	66
Confer with engineering, technical or manufacturing personnel	25
Coordinate engineering project activities	71
Create mathematical or statistical diagrams or charts	43
Delegate authority for engineering activities	73
Design control systems	78
Design electro-mechanical equipment	82
Design electronic equipment	74
Design engineered systems	75
Design manufacturing processes or methods	77
Design power equipment	87
Determine specifications	67
Develop or maintain databases	30
Develop plans for programs or projects	31
Develop policies, procedures, methods, or standards	21
Develop tables depicting data	33
Direct and coordinate activities of workers or staff	3
Direct personnel in support of engineering activities	74
Draw prototypes, plans, or maps to scale	57
Estimate cost for engineering projects	69
Estimate time needed for project	64
Estimate time or cost for installation, repair, or construction projects	54
Evaluate costs of engineering projects	70
Evaluate engineering data	60
Evaluate manufacturing or processing systems	68
Evaluate product design	78
Examine engineering documents for completeness or accuracy	62
Explain complex mathematical information	30
Follow manufacturing methods or techniques	73
Follow safe waste disposal procedures	50
Follow statistical process control procedures	73
Improve test devices or techniques in manufacturing, industrial or engineering setting	75
Inspect facilities or equipment for regulatory compliance	51
Lead teams in engineering projects	73
Plan testing of engineering methods	72
Prepare reports	8
Prepare technical reports or related documentation	22
Provide analytical assessment of engineering data	75
Read blueprints	10
Read schematics	34
Read technical drawings	7
Resolve engineering or science problems	46
Test equipment as part of engineering projects or processes	67
Understand engineering data or reports	48
Use computer aided drafting or design software for design, drafting, modeling, or other engineering tasks	58
Use computer graphics design software	70
Use computers to enter, access or retrieve data	3
Use drafting or mechanical drawing techniques	50

Use government regulations	44
Use intuitive judgment for engineering analyses	72
Use knowledge of investigation techniques	16
Use library or online Internet research techniques	21
Use mathematical or statistical methods to identify or analyze problems	30
Use pollution control techniques	62
Use project management techniques	47
Use quality assurance techniques	61
Use quantitative research methods	35
Use relational database software	26
Use research methodology procedures within manufacturing or commerce	75
Use robotics systems technology	78
Use scientific research methodology	21
Use spreadsheet software	18
Use technical information in manufacturing or industrial activities	67
Use technical regulations for engineering problems	61
Use total quality management practices	85
Use word processing or desktop publishing software	17
Work as a team member	36
Write business project or bid proposals	48
Write product performance requirements	78

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus
Occupation to Associated
Occupation: 72

Focus Occupation: Mechanical Engineers (17-2141)
Associated Occupation: Electrical Engineers (17-2071)

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Business function specific software	1
Cameras	2
Computer printers	2
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Development software	4
Electrical measuring and testing equipment	7
Electronic and communication measuring and testing instruments	14
Electronic manufacturing and processing machinery	56
Indicating and recording instruments	2
Industry specific software	1
Integrated circuits	18
Laboratory environmental conditioning equipment	24
Laboratory furnaces and accessories	26
Length and thickness and distance measuring instruments	2

Light and wave generating and measuring equipment	4
Mechanical instruments	14
Spectroscopic equipment	10
Temperature and heat measuring instruments	6
Viewing and observing instruments and accessories	4
Weight measuring instruments	7

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.